



CONTACT

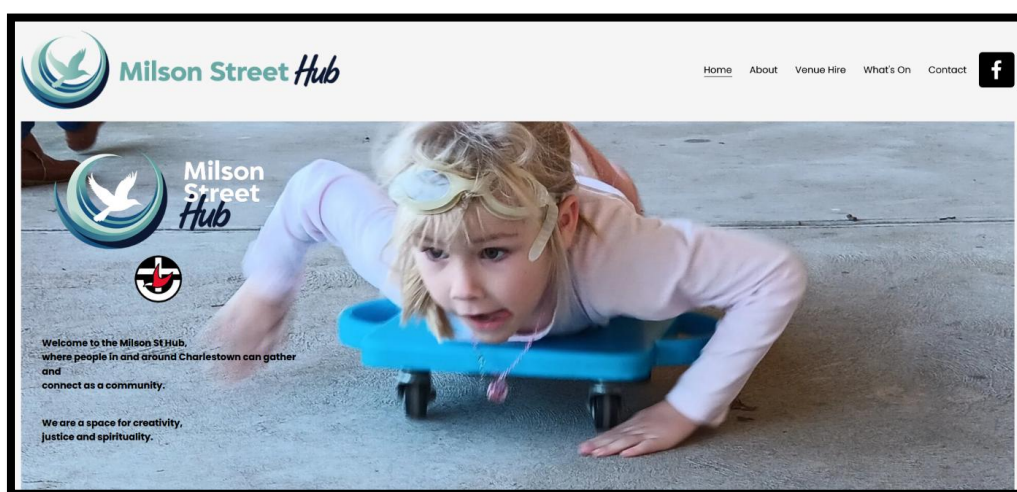


Charlestown & Garden Suburb Uniting
Church Multi-Centre Congregation

16 August 2026

**We're excited to announce the launch of the new
Milson St Hub website!**

Check it out here: <https://www.milsonsthub.org.au>



The CHaGS website continues here: <https://www.chagsuca.org.au>

And the CHaGS Facebook page is [HERE](#)



Women on 4th Monday

Grief



Join us for an afternoon of reflection and conversation as we explore grief and loss.



Explore what Jesus taught about grief.



Examine what grief is and what society and church practices are helpful/unhelpful.



Discuss how we can help someone who is grieving.

Monday August 24th
1:30 – 3:00 pm.

North Lake Macquarie
Uniting Church
342 Hillsborough Road,
Warners Bay.



DIARY

Thursday 13 August

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square
1.30-2.30pm Bible Study in the Dudley Room at Milson St Hub

Friday 14 August

6.00pm Ladies Night at Kahibah

Saturday 15 August

8.00am **Men's Breakfast at Milson St Hub – more details further in Contact**

Sunday 16 August – Pentecost 12

9.00am The Divine Worship
Leader: David Chegwiddden and Preacher: Rev John Warham
Genesis 45:1-15, Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Psalm 133, Psalm 67; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

Tuesday 18 August

10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square

Thursday 20 August

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square
1.30-2.30pm Bible Study in the Dudley Room at Milson St Hub

Saturday 22 August

2.00pm **Music @ The Bay 26** at The Willows Uniting Church, Warners Bay see more further in Contact

Sunday 23 August – Pentecost 13

9.00am The Divine Worship
Leader: Beryl Gaul and Preacher: Les Butchers
Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 24; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

Tuesday 25 August

10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square
12.00pm **Garden Suburb Ladies Fellowship at Wests Cardiff**
5.00pm **You are Invited to the Final Meeting of the Hunter Presbytery at The Willows** – see more information further in Contact.

Thursday 27 August

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square
1.30-2.30pm Bible Study in the Dudley Room at Milson St Hub

Sunday 30 August – Pentecost 14

9.00am The Divine Worship – SRE Service
Leader: Cathy Beeton and Preacher: Sara Cooper
Exodus 3:1-15, Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b, Psalm 26:1-8; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

SEPTEMBER

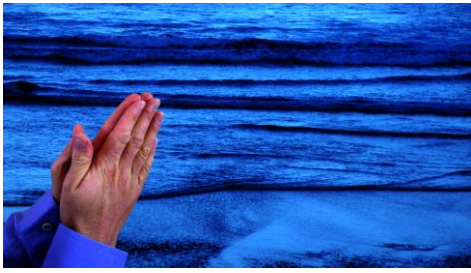
Tuesday 1 September

10.00am Pastoral Care Visit at Garden Suburb Aged Care Facility
10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square

Thursday 3 September

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square
1.30-2.30pm Bible Study in the Dudley Room at Milson St Hub

THE PRAYER PAGE



Prayer is the Voice of Faith

Pastoral Prayer Points

- * Tom's mum died on Tuesday so we send love and sympathy to the Stuart family. Pray also for Tom as he recovers from his motor bike accident.
- * Pray for Janice Wright and family
- * Jean Witherspoon and family
- * Robyn Greaves and family
- * Marion Box
- * Prayers for Grahame Beeton and family
- * Mert and Pam
- * Jacqueline Fenwick
- * Rene Kelly
- * Glen and Marion
- * Valmai
- * Kelly
- * Tony Sellen
- * Vicki
- * Pam and Ken
- * Lyn Benson
- * Jean
- * Isabella
- * Eileen Dunn
- * Max
- * Don Humphries

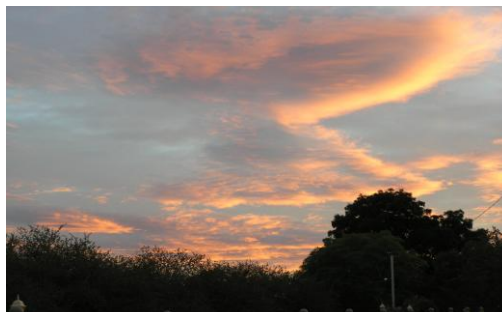
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Congregational Prayer Points

- NREMA application
- Piteeri
- Major upgrades to the Project Reconnect website
- Worship Services
- Cathy Beeton and SRE classes
- Church profile and preparations for Tom's retirement
- Worship Committee

Wider Community Prayer Points

- pray for Catherine Pepper who has recently been appointed Associate General Secretary, Strategy and Governance for the Assembly of the UCA. Pray that she may receive wisdom and grace as she fulfills her role which is involved with preparing the church for the future in the areas of strategy and governance.
- Mayfield/Stockton
- Margaret Jurd College and Darren Twist the Principal
- Orphanage in Kenya and Wilfreda
- Neos ministry
- Those affected by climate change in Australia eg floods, droughts and fires
- Prayer for those in conflict zones in the world



SPIRITUAL PRACTICE OF THE WEEK

Teachability: Teachability is a propensity and openness to learn from God no matter who the teacher or what the experience may be.

Practice: Become aware of your compulsions to let others know what you think.

Notice when you're composing what you will say next rather than listening to the one who is speaking. • When do you feel the urge to pontificate or otherwise hold forth?

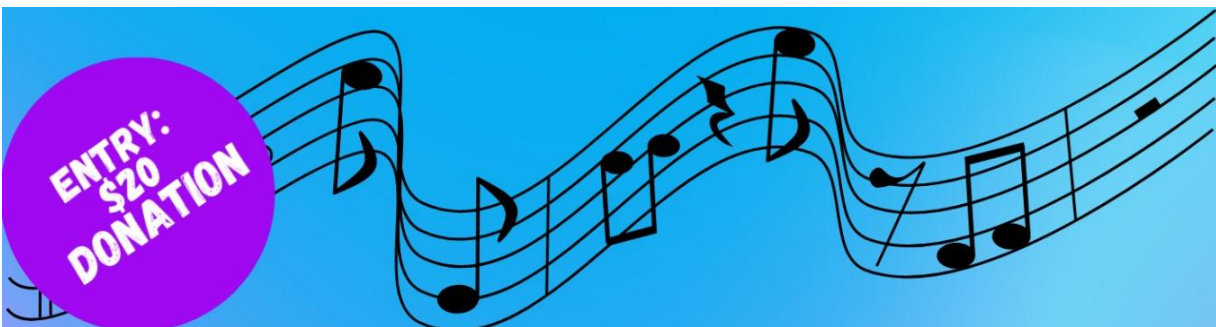
• Ask God to give you a teachable heart and a will to listen. • What do you learn about yourself? about others? about what God values?

These resources come from Calhoun, Adele Ahlberg. Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices That Transform Us (Transforming Resources). InterVarsity Press



**On the 22 August we will be
attending the Music at the Bay '26
Concert at Warners Bay Uniting
Church at 2.00pm**

All Welcome



**ENTRY:
\$20
DONATION**

MUSIC @ The Bay 26

Featuring Performances by:

Novatones Harmony Chorus

Bella Voce – 5 Part Vocal Group

Soprano Eloise Rowland and Tenor Ian Fisher of
Opera Hunter

Archer Nicholas- Canning - a Young Tenor

Aaron Rothemund – Flute and Piccolo

2pm Saturday August 22th, 2026

Location :

**The Willows Uniting Church,
342 Hillsborough Road, Warners Bay**



Includes a delicious afternoon tea at the
conclusion of performance.

Supporting Local High School SRE (Scripture) provided
by Charlestown & Warners Bay Christian Education
Associations

More Information :

Contact Paul : 0411 236 047



Invitation

The final meeting of the **Hunter Presbytery**, before we become part of the Northern Presbytery on 1 September 2026, will be held at Warners Bay Uniting Church on Tuesday 25th August commencing with refreshments at 5.30pm. Arrival anytime from 5pm.

This will be a night when we reflect on the past **49 years of the life and ministry of the Hunter Presbytery** and give thanks and celebrate as we look forward to joining the Northern Presbytery.

We warmly invite members of our congregations who have perhaps been linked with the Presbytery in some way, or who are interested to join us for this special celebration.

Cost of refreshments is \$12 each. Please RSVP no later than Friday 21 August with any dietary requirements to: Jenny Mathieson: jennyandray@bigpond.com or phone: 49468143

August: Witnessing

16 August – Pentecost 12

Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133; Romans 11:1-2a,29-31; Matthew 15:(10-20),21-28

Joseph reveals himself to his brothers and names a path toward family survival and relational repair through truth-telling and tears, while Psalm 133 sings the beauty of siblings dwelling together.

Yet, both New Testament texts touch on the complexity and cost of unity. Romans 11 insists that God has not rejected God's people and reimagines mercy as the promise that holds open a future for insiders and outsiders alike.

Matthew pushes this frame into a concrete, contested encounter as Jesus and the Canaanite woman negotiate boundary, speech, and healing. Jesus' initial refusal of the request and ethnicised language have rightly troubled interpreters. Yet the woman persists, argues, and secures healing; her voice drives the story toward widened mercy.

23 August – Pentecost 13

Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124; Rom 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

Exodus opens with an anxious empire that responds to perceived threat with policy violence. The resistance of midwives, a mother, a sister, and Pharaoh's daughter disrupt the machinery of death. Psalm 124 voices a communal testimony of survival – what Pharaoh intends as an engulfing flood becomes, by God's sustaining presence and by the courage of these women, an escape from empire's intent.

Paul urges the Romans to resist conforming to the age of empire through "living sacrifice" language that directs worship away from spectacle toward shared life for the common good. Gifts are for building up, not status!

In Matthew, Peter's confession of the Messiah is affirmed, and Jesus speaks of a community that will endure, but urges his disciples to keep this revelation quiet. In empire language, "Messiah/King" is easily heard as a rival regime.

30 August – Frontier Services Sunday

Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6,23-26,45b; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

Moses encounters God in a burning bush in the everyday landscape of an exile. His ordinary work tending the flock becomes the holy ground of liberation as he cares for God's people and advocates for their release. Psalm 105 keeps his memory alive, reminding us that God's faithfulness is a refrain to be rehearsed and retold.

Following on from Peter's confession, Jesus rejects empire-power as he turns decisively towards the cross and its costly allegiance. Romans 12 gives the cross shape in communal ethics of hospitality, shared joy and grief, perseverance, and non-retaliatory resistance.

Frontier Service Sunday widens community to consider ministry at the edges where presence, endurance, and justice are practised far from the centre. These readings remind us that through communal care, God meets people on the periphery where services are scarce and needs are real.

These Lectionary Reflections were prepared by Rev. Yvonne Ghavalas

Some of our Church Contacts:

Minister

Rev Tom Stuart

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Administration:

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24 Milson St, Charlestown NSW 2290

PO Box 449, Charlestown NSW 2290

Children & Families Resource Worker:

Mrs Cathy Beeton

M: 0409 445 933 E:

Cath4858@gmail.com

Mrs Cathy Beeton is also our Safe Church Contact Person

Communications Coordinator:

Piteeri Michail

M: 0493 094 231 E:

Piteeri.m@outlook.com

Bank Account Details for the Charlestown Garden Suburb Multi-Centre Congregation:

Bank Account held with: Uniting Financial Services

Account Name: Charlestown Congregation General Account

BSB: 634 634 Account No.: 100030837

For Offering please put Ref: Offering

Keep up to date with happenings and info:

Webpage: <http://www.chagsuca.org.au>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CharlestownUnitingChurch>

Project Reconnect: <http://www.projectreconnect.com.au>

Worship Services: <https://tinyurl.com/CHaGS-YouTube-Link>